

Worth Every Penny

The Story of the Pearl of Great Price

Lesson by Ray Reynolds (7/18/10)

Text: Matthew 13:45-46

Introduction: This is an amazing and perplexing parable. The kingdom and the pearl of great price are the same as the church. The church brings Jesus great joy since He purchased it (**Ephesians 5**). Likewise, it brings its members contentment, peace, and security. It is worth everything we have and more. We need the peace that eternal life can bring us (**John 3:16**). There is nothing like being a part of the church of Christ. God gives us so many promises and blessings. Let's study the meaning of this wonderful story



Discussion:

I. SEARCHING FOR THE TREASURE

- A. We must search for the church (**Matthew 16:17-19**).
- B. We must search for happiness and contentment (**Philippians 4:4-13**).
- C. We must search for valuable things (**Acts 2:37-47**).
- D. We must search diligently (**Matthew 4:8-10**).

II. BECOMING THE TREASURE

- A. How can we find the treasure?
 - 1. The Universal Church (**Romans 16:16, Philippians 3:16, I Corinthians 1:10, John 17**).
 - 2. The Local Church (**Jude 3, Ephesians 3:10**).
 - 3. The Individual (**Luke 17:21, I Timothy 3:14-15**).
- B. How can we lose our luster?
 - 1. We can mix-up our priorities (**Matthew 6:33**).
 - 2. We can ignore our mission (**Mark 16:15-16**).
 - 3. We can lose our passion (**John 13:34-35**).
 - 4. We can forget our vision (**Luke 19:9-10**).

III. Valuing The Treasure

- A. The kingdom is not redeemed by silver and gold (**I Peter 1:18**).
- B. The kingdom has its past sins washed away at baptism (**Acts 22:16**).
- C. The kingdom opens its doors to us at baptism (**Acts 2:41, 47**).
- D. The kingdom is opened by God, not man (**Acts 2:47**).
- E. The kingdom is made clean through the word (**John 15:3**).
- F. The kingdom is sanctified through the truth (**John 17:17**).
- G. The kingdom people have their names in the Book of Life (**Revelation 21:27**).

Conclusion: When we look at our lives, as the “*pearl of great price*,” we believe that Jesus can polish us and make us shine. We need to remember that each of us are valuable to God. Do you see your value? God loved you so much that He sent His one and only Son to die for you (**John 3:16**). There is nothing that can separate you from His love (**Romans 8:37-39**). To the Lord, your life was worth every penny that was paid...every drop of blood!

WORD OF THE DAY = “PRICE”